

**ST. AUSTIN’S NEWSLETTER**

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**Follow us on Twitter:** @SaintAustins

**Parish Website:** [www.saintaustins.org.uk](http://www.saintaustins.org.uk)

**Diocesan Website:** www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk

**Parish Clergy**

**Parish Priest:** Canon Michael Neylon

**Priest in Residence:** Fr. Joseph Narikuzhi

**Permanent Deacon:** Rev. Louis Livesey

**Parish Safeguarding Representative:** Mrs. Sue Kelly, 07875549906

Rev. David McCarrol

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| 3rd March 2019  Mass Times and Intentions | | | |
| Mass Book: Page 144| Sunday Cycle: Year C  Psalter: Week 4| Weekday Cycle: Year I | | | |
| ***Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time*** | | | |
| Saturday | Confessions | 3.45pm – 4.15pm | |
|  | Vigil Mass | 4.30 pm | Fr. Pierce Murphy |
| Sunday | Mass | 10.30 am | Ken Horton |
|  | Mass | 6.00 pm | People of the Parish |
| Monday | Mass | 10.00 am | Christina O’Brien |
| ***Feria*** |  |  |  |
| Tuesday | Mass **(In Church)** | 9.1  **10.00 am** | Stephen Neesan |
| ***Feria*** |  |  |  |
| Wednesday | Mass | **10.00 am** | C.D. & E.G. Sillito |
| ***Ash Wednesday*** |  | **7.00pm** | E. & J. Doyle |
| Thursday | **Mass** (**St. Joseph’s)** | **10.30 am** | Myra Pinfield |
| ***Ss. Perpetua & Felicity*** |  |  |  |
| Friday | Mass | 12.00 Noon | John Fernandes |
| ***St. John of God*** |  |  |  |
| Saturday | Mass | 10.00 am | Delores Charlton |
| ***St. Frances of Rome*** | Exposition | Until 11.30 am | |
|  | Confessions | 10.30 am – 11.30 am | |
| **First Sunday of Lent** | | | |
| Saturday | Confessions | 3.45 pm – 4.15 pm | |
|  | Vigil Mass | 4.30 pm | Cathy Connelly |
| Sunday | Mass | 10.30 am | Marie & Laurie Hawkins |
|  | Mass | 6.00 pm | People of the Parish |
| Primary School Masses: St Austin’s (STA) & Blessed Mother Teresa’s (BMT) | | | |

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***Quote from Pope Francis’ Apostolic Exhortation “Amoris Laetitia”***

***Chapter 4* LOVE IN MARRIAGE*.*** *The erotic dimension of love*

151(Continued) As such, “the human heart comes to participate, so to speak, in another kind of spontaneity”. In this context, the erotic appears as a specifically human manifestation of sexuality. It enables us to discover “the nuptial meaning of the body and the authentic dignity of the gift”. In his catecheses on the theology of the body, Saint John Paul II taught that sexual differentiation not only is “a source of fruitfulness and procreation”, but also possesses “the capacity of expressing love: that love precisely in which the human person becomes a gift”. A healthy sexual desire, albeit closely joined to a pursuit of pleasure, always involves a sense of wonder, and for that very reason can humanize the impulses.

**Anniversaries**

Patrick Kelly, T. Parry, Mary Birrer, Alice Burgess, George Gage, Cyril Ryan, Ken Horton, Patricia Dennison, Bridget Clarke, Patrick Curtis, Norah McLaughlin, Salomea Pietruszko, Gertrude Walker, Violet Huskisson, Maureen McLellan, Peter Stubbs, Thomas Peggs, Florence Quinn, Mary Nolan, Mary O’Shea, James Cassidy, Sir Hugh Fraser, Patricia Bishop, Jack Vaughan, Margaret Treadwell, Reuben Baker, Alan Gouch, Lillian Bennion, Basil Reeves, Giovanni di Matteo, Maria Mira, Sylvester Madigan, Thomas Meade, Myra Pinfield, Frs. D Murphy, D Carter, J Pinkman, E Jarvis, T Fullerton, F Johnson Deacon J Rowe

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| **Weekly Events in the Parish**  **Monday** - Convent Prayer Group:  St Joseph’s Nursing Home in the  Convent Chapel at 1.30 p.m.  **Tuesday** - Knit & Natter Group:  Meets in the Parish Room at 2.00 p.m.  **Thursday** - **Choir Practice:**  Every Thursday evening at 7.30 p.m.  **Rosary:**  A Decade of the Rosary is said after each  weekday Mass in Church. |
| **Our Parish Schools**  **Blessed Mother Teresa of Kolkata Primary**  Address: Somerset Road, Stafford, ST 17 9UZ  Telephone: 01785 413276  Website: www.bmtschool.co.uk  **St. Austin’s Primary**  Address: Garden Street, Stafford, ST17 4BT  Telephone: 01785 413277  Website: www.st-austins.org.uk  **Blessed William Howard Catholic High School**  Address: Rowley Avenue, Stafford, ST17 9AB  Telephone: 01785 244236  Website: www.bwh.staffs.sch.uk |
| **Other Catholic Churches in Stafford**  St. Anne’s:  Parish Priest: Fr. Robert Devaney  Address: Lynton Avenue, Stafford, ST17 0EA  Telephone: 01785 661012  Email: stannes.stafford@gmail.com  Website: www.st-annes-st.org.uk  Saturday: Confessions 5.30pm  Vigil Mass 6.00pm  Sunday: Mass 11.15am  **St. Patrick’s:** *Served from St Anne’s*  Address: 48 Sandon Road, Stafford, ST16 3HF  Sunday: Confessions 9.00am  Mass 9.30am |
| **Offertory Collection**  Gift Aid Envelopes: £707.45  Loose: £404.60        ***Many thanks for your offerings last week*** |

**Counters:** Group 1 this week. Group 2 is next week.

**Refreshments:** Refreshments are served in the Parish Hall after the 10.30 a.m. Mass every Sunday**.** All are welcome.

**Piety Room:** Thanks for your continuous support of the Piety Room. As well as the Catholic papers a variety of cards and rosaries are available.

**Deacon Louis Livesey:** Deacon Louis continues to be blessed with great love and care in St. Joseph’s Convent Nursing Home. We continue to keep him and his family in our prayers as we thank for his ministry among us for over twenty years.

**Cathedral Maintenance:** The second collection this weekend is the annual one for the maintenance of St. Chad’s Cathedral, the Mother Church of the Diocese

**Senior Citizens:** St. Austin’s Senior Citizens have their Annual General Meeting in the Parish Room on Wednesday next 6th March at 2.00 p.m. All are welcome and Annual Subscriptions of £1 are due.

**Monthly Mass:** This Month’s Mass at St. Joseph’s Convent Nursing Home is on Thursday next at 10.30 a.m. All are very welcome.

**Lent:** We begin the Season of Lent on Wednesday next, **Ash Wednesday,** with the blessing and distribution of ashes at the **10.00 a.m**. and **7.00 p.m**. **Masses**.

**Lenten Exercises:** During lent we are encouraged to pray fast and do works of mercy. Please make use of the following opportunities.

**Walk with Me:** Archbishop Bernard invites us to join the Diocesan family in a programme of daily prayer and reflection. Copies of the “Walk with Me” Prayer Books and Calendars are available in the porch this weekend. Please help yourselves.

**Friday Soup Lunches:** All are welcome to partake of the Soup Lunches in the Parish Hall after the Midday Mass on the Fridays of Lent, starting this coming Friday.

**Stations of the Cross:** All are welcome to join in the Lenten Devotional Prayer of the Stations of the Cross at 7.00 p.m. on the Fridays of Lent.

**Support CAFOD:** This Lent CAFOD invites us to reflect, pray and take global action by following CAFOD’s online calendar <https://cafod.org.uk//Pray/Lent-Calendar>

A suggestion will be offered in the Bulletin each week.

**Family Fast Day:** This year CAFOD’s Family Fast Day is on Friday 15th March. The envelopes for your donations will be available next weekend.

**Catholic Stafford Lent Course:** Thanks to all who have signed up for the five sessionsduring Lent. Our three Primary Schools have very kindly made our three school halls available so that we can watch the film on their large screens. **The venues are:**

**St Anne’s School 12th March and 2nd April.**

**St Austin’s School 19th March and 9th April.**

**St Patrick’s School 26th March**.

**Each Session will begin at 7.30 p.m.**

Copies of the book “The Long Road to Heaven” are available this weekend at a cost of £5.00. Reading the introduction beforehand is highly recommended.

**There is a list in the porch for those who require transport to St. Anne’s & St. Patrick’s and for those who would like to share transport.**

**Walsingham Pilgrimage 2019:** The Annual Stafford Pilgrimage to Walsingham is on the weekend of the 26th to the 28th of July. Application Forms with details of prices and accommodation etc are on the shelf in the porch. Please contact Helen Perry on 07837519253 for further details.

**Reception Administrator:** There are details on the board in the porch of a vacancy at Blessed William Howard catholic High School for a Reception Administrator and First Aid Grade 4. Email: [office@bwh.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:office@bwh.staffs.sch.uk) for details.

**Every Life Matters:** There is a notice on the board in the porch promoting this thought-provoking talk by Life Charity in the Grimshaw Room, St. Chad’s Cathedral, Birmingham on Saturday 23rd March at 11.00 a.m. All are welcome.

**200+ Club:** Congratulations to Chris Heaton whose number 12 was the winner of the February Draw. Subscriptions for those who pay every six months are due before the end of March. Please collect the envelopes in the porch and put the payments through the Presbytery door.

**Christian Food Help:** All at CFH thank you for your continuous and generous support that enabled **1148** food parcels to be distributed during **February**.

**New Envelopes**: Thanks to your generous financial support the Parish was able to reclaim £11,688.96 from HMRC for the 2016 / 17 financial year. Our thanks to Phil Hood, our Gift Aid Organiser, our counters and office staff who look after the monies every week. The Envelopes for the coming financial year beginning on 6th April are now available for collecting in the porch this weekend.

**Stafford Half Marathon:** There is a notice on the porch to remind us there may be a little disruption with some road closures for the Half Marathon next Sunday. Good luck to all the participants.